

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 147402

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AFSP, ABLD, CGEN

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONSULAR ASSISTANCE TEAM (CAT)

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 3538, (B) BUCHAREST 3891

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH SUGGESTED TIMING OF CAT VISIT
PER PARA 2, REFTEL (B). EXACT DATES WILL BE SUPPLIED AS
SOON AS TEAM COMPOSITION DETERMINED.

2. CAT IS A PROGRAM DESIGNED BY THE BUREAU TO ASSIST POSTS
IN RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGE OF INCREASING WORKLOADS AND
THE MORE COMPLEX CASELOADS CONFRONTING CONSULAR SECTIONS
TODAY. THE TEAM IS LED BY AN EXPERIENCED PRIVATE MANAGE-
MENT CONSULTANT; AND ITS OBJECTIVES WILL BE TO WORK WITH
THE POST TO ACHIEVE IMPROVEMENTS IN OPERATIONS AND MANAGE-
MENT, CROWD CONTROL, DIRECTIONAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL SIGNS,
OFFICE SPACE, INTERVIEWING PROCEDURES, PAPER FLOW, VISA
REFERRAL SYSTEM, SECURITY AND POST TRAINING. IN ADDITION,
THE TEAM WILL STUDY EXTENT TO WHICH TECHNOLOGY CAN BE
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ADAPTED TO CONSULAR NEEDS, INSURE THAT THERE IS OPTIMAL
ALLOCATION OF OFFICER AND LOCAL STAFF AND SEEK ADDITIONAL
TOOLS TO COMBAT VISA FRAUD.

3. THE TEAM IS EXPECTED TO MAKE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS
AND WILL ASSIST WITH THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. FOLLOW-UP
VISITS WILL BE MADE IF NECESSARY. IN ADDITION, THE TEAM

WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE CONSULAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION SUPERVISORS AND THEIR STAFFS. THE CONSULAR SECTION PROBLEMS WILL BE MUTUALLY ASSESSED, SOLUTIONS PROPOSED AND ACTUALLY IMPLEMENTED AT THE POST.

4. TO ASSIST CAT IN PREPARATIONS FOR VISIT, DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY PROVIDE SOONEST FOLLOWING ITEMS:
 - A. STAFFING PATTERN: PLEASE PROVIDE NAMES, GRADES AND ASSIGNMENTS OF ALL CONSULAR SECTION PERSONNEL, AMERICAN AND LOCAL.
 - B. FLOOR PLANS OF CONSULAR SECTION, INCLUDING LOCATIONS OF DESKS AND EQUIPMENT.
 - C. PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALL AREAS OF CONSULAR SECTION SHOWING CEILINGS, WINDOWS, CORRIDORS, PUBLIC AND WORK AREAS, CROWDS, ETC. VANCE

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